Prices of paraxylene

881. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 740 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th May, 1990 and state:

(a) the current prices of paraxylene in the international market;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to mop up the extra-ordinary profits of the users of imported paraxylene;

(c) whether it is a fact that in such a situation Government increases customs duty on the imported material with a view to achieve the objective of keeping the marketing price of imported material slightly higher than the market price of indigenously produced material;

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken to achieve the said object and collect adequate customs duty and also make imports unattractive; and

(e) if no action has been taken so far, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Current International prices of paraxylene ranges between 370-380 USS/T.

(b) to (e) Customs duty on imported materials is fixed from time to time taking into account various factors such as the international and domestic prices, fair selling prices, the prevailing demand-supply position etc.

Refusal by drug companies for submission of details

882. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 309 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th May, 1990 and state:

(a) what are the details of companies which have refused to Pay money or submit the details;

(b) what action has been taken against those companies;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry have referred certain cases for recovery as arrears of land revenue; and

(d) if so, what are the details of such cases referred after the 1st January, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) While companies have not refused to give details to the Government, they have taken time to furnish the details or to submit their claims.

(b) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) and (d) No case has been referred for recovery as an arrears of land revenue, after 1st January, 1990.

Recovery from M/s. Hoechst

883. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Hoechst have refused to pay money to Government following court judgement;

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the company for contempt of Court;

(c) whetheer his Ministry has made any claim of recovery from the Company;

(d) if so, when was the final claim made and what is their reply; and

(e) what are the names of drugs involved, claims made on each and what amount has been paid gaainst each?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above no action is required at this state.

(c) to (e) A tentative amount of Rs. 24.91 crores as due upto December, 1983 have been communicated to the company. The representations of the company against

the above assessment have since been rejected and they have been asked to make available the details for the final assessment of the amounts. The company have already paid a sum of Rs. 312.10 lakhs into the Drug Prices Equalisation Account.

Losses incurred by IDPL

884. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IDPL is giving schemes in the market on a number of formulations;

(b) if so, what are the names of such formulations;

(c) what is the type of these schemes and what is the percentage involved in these schemes when compared with the retail prices approved by his Ministry:

(d) whether it is a fact that IDPL is still going in loss; and

(e) if so, what are the net losses during the last three years, year-wise and what steps have been taken to improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI BHAJMAN BEHERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLV, Annexure No. 34]

(d) and (e) The net losses incurred by IDPL during the last 3 years are as under:—

(Rs. in Crores)

YEAR	NET LOSS
1987-88	30.22
1988-89	46.42
1989-90	48.21

(Provisional)

Rehabilitation programme & Capital restructuring are under consideration.

Liability on Flucinolone Acetonide

885. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 708 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th May, 1990 and state:

(a) what are the details of notices issued to the producer of Flucinolone Acetonide formulations, when was the reply to each notice received and what action has been taken on the reply to each notice;

(b) whether his Ministry have worked out the liability on these formulations; and

(c) if so, what are the detils thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) M/s. Lyka Labs. have been served a notice for recovery of Rs. 678.73 lakhs under Para 7(2) of DPCO, 1979 in respect of bulk drug Flucinolone Acetonide. In regard to formulations, the company have not furnished any details but have filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court on various issues, *inter-alia*, including the above issue. The matter is therefore, subjudice.

Consideration of reports of various Committees on drug issues

886. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the procedure in his Ministry to examine and verify the findings and recommendations of various committees set up in the past on drug issues;

(b) who verified the findings of the Special Team appointed to assess liabilities against drug manufacturers involved in Supreme Court cases and recommendations of the Kelkar Committee,

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has found irregularities, anomalies, discrepancies and bungling in these two reports; and